



MINUTES

**Historic Preservation Commission
7447 E. Indian School Road
1st Floor Community Development Conference Room
July 22, 2004
5:00 P.M.**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 P.M.

ATTENDANCE

Present: Ed Wimmer, Chair
B.J. Gonzales, Vice Chair
Nancy Dallett
Kathy Howard
Cathy Johnson
Paul Winslow

Absent: George Hartz

Staff: Don Meserve
Debbie Abele, HPO

Visitors: Joann Handley, Liz Wilson

ROLL CALL

A formal roll call confirmed members present as stated above.

MINUTES

June 10, 2004

Commissioner Johnson requested corrections to the June 10, 2004 minutes. On page 2, second to last paragraph changed the word appropriated to appropriate. On page 3, third paragraph from the bottom that reads: "Ms. Abele stated that they might want to look at Legend City and Old Tucson because they might see some characteristic features". She suggested adding that they are no longer there and look at the records. Commissioner Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2004 meeting as amended. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Howard and passed unanimously.

Historic Register Committee Recommendations on 1950 Neighborhoods

Commissioner Howard, chair of the Committee stated that Ms. Abele would present the process used by the Committee to prepare the recommendations. Ms. Abele reviewed the process used to select the best 1950s neighborhoods. She reported this process has taken place over the last three years, starting with the thesis on postwar subdivisions by Liz Wilson. She reported the Committee used a process that included: selecting the top ranked 20 neighborhoods for further study; completing intensive study of top ranked neighborhoods; conducting house-by-house intensive survey by teams of two; holding two field tours; selecting the top 5 for further research and evaluation; and recently re-surveying the 10 second tier 1950s neighborhoods.

Commissioner Dallett expressed gratitude for all the work on neighborhoods everybody has done.

Liz Wilson presented information in a Powerpoint presentation on the development process, marketing, subdivision characteristics, and housing characteristics for the top five recommended neighborhoods of Sherwood Heights, Village Grove 1-6, Scottsdale Estates 4, Town and Country Scottsdale, and Cavalier Vistas 3 & 4.

Commissioner Johnson commented on Town & Country Scottsdale that the report indicates they are Ralph Haver designed homes but she would like to see that in writing. Ms. Abele reported that no building permit documents were available. She further reported that she contacted Mr. Haver's partner, and he explained that when they went bankrupt and were evicted from their architect's office, the landlord threw everything out so there are no records of the firms work.

Ms. Abele stated this agenda item was informational and no action is requested. She presented a proposed schedule for moving forward. At the August 26th meeting the Commission can vote on a recommendation on the top '50s neighborhoods. The next step will be to present information at open houses on the broad survey process and historic context, and meet with residents from neighborhoods identified as most significant.

Commissioner Dallett stated she would like information regarding whether there was a formal relation between the developers and Motorola. She further stated that it was her impression there was a formal connection through financing with Motorola.

Commissioner Gonzales stated that he has lived in most of these neighborhoods and the distinguishing thing about a Haver house is that he always did unique things with regard to design and construction.

Commissioner Dallett stated that she would like to know if there were deed restrictions on these homes. Ms. Abele reported the next step would be to write a letter to long-time residents to see if they have any information to share. If they have pictures when they moved in.

Commissioner Dallett stated that she thought they should define the significance not just the architecture. They should understand whether a black person or women could buy one of these homes. Who was lending the money? What kinds of incentives there were? With regard to the Sherwood Heights subdivision, was somebody cleaning these homes and taking care of the massive yards. She urged the commission and staff to consider the relationship of the different economics that supported life in Scottsdale neighborhoods in the 1950s. Ms. Abele reported the next step would be to understand the population characteristics.

Ms. Abele stated in terms of the checklist on the characteristics of the top five neighborhoods, one of the types that is not represented is irrigated lots. She further stated that none of the neighborhoods recommended represented neighborhoods with under 25 houses built.

Ms. Handley, a Committee member, explained that the economy of the housing negated irrigation and that only larger homes could afford to have irrigation ditches, Arcadia area being an example.

Commissioner Howard stated she thought Ms. Wilson and Ms. Abele did an excellent job. Commissioner Winslow stated that he went on the July 17th tour and was extremely impressed with the Committee. Chair Wimmer remarked the Committee should be commended for their work.

Chair Wimmer stated he observed quite a variety of ways these neighbors respect their homes and their neighborhoods. A lot of the things they have learned in the survey research probably would be helpful to the Neighborhood Enhancement Commission.

Mr. Meserve reported that he has already received phone calls from residents inquiring why their neighborhood was not chosen as a historic neighborhood and he usually advises them that there neighborhood probably had been too many alterations.

WESTERN THEME ARCHITECTURE RESEARCH

Ms. Abele passed out articles on Western Theme Architecture as a summer reading homework assignment for the Commissioners.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Historic Register

Ms. Abele commented that in the fall the Committee would begin reviewing multi-family housing.

Education Outreach

There was no report.

HPO/STAFF REPORT AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Abele advised the commissioners' that they have a busy schedule from now until January.

Mr. Meserve reported the new brochures on Scottsdale's Early Town Buildings and Scottsdale's Arts and Tourism Historic Properties have been printed and are available.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS/PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Wimmer reported that he had a request from the Chair of the Tempe Historic Preservation Commission to make available to them the Archeology Guidelines. Mr. Meserve will follow up on this request with Tempe. Chair Wimmer reported that he would be meeting with the chairs' of the Tempe Historic Preservation Commission and Mesa Historic Preservation Committee to informally exchange information.

FUTURE MEETINGS AND AGENDA ITEMS

Ms. Abele stated the next meeting would be held on August 26, 2004. The commission previously agreed not to meet on August 12, 2004.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Submitted by:

For the Record Court Reporters

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